

Inventor(s): Zhou et al.
Serial No.: 10/016,481
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-32 (withdrawn).

Claims 33-41 (canceled).

42. (Amended) A method of identifying a prokineticin receptor ~~agonist~~ ligand, comprising the steps of:

contacting a preparation comprising a prokineticin receptor and calcium ion indicator with one or more candidate compounds, and

~~identifying a compound that selectively promotes production of a prokineticin receptor signal, said compound being characterized as a prokineticin receptor agonist~~

measuring a calcium ion indicator signal, whereby a compound that mobilizes calcium ion is identified as a prokineticin receptor ligand.

Claims 43-90 (canceled).

91. (Newly Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein said preparation further comprises a prokineticin, and said prokineticin comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of amino acids 1-77 of SEQ ID NO. 3 and amino acids 1-77 of SEQ ID NO. 6.

92. (Newly Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein said preparation is a cell line.

93. (Newly Presented) The method of claim 92, wherein said cell line is M2A7 (ATCC CRL-2500).

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94. (Newly Presented) The method of claim 42, further comprising the step of:

determining the ability of said ligand to modulate smooth muscle contractility.

95. (Newly Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the ligand is an antagonist of the prokineticin receptor.

96. (Newly Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the ligand is an agonist of the prokineticin receptor.